

# ALEXANDER MAY TAKE OVER AT FULL-BACK

**PAUL Birdseye**, Wycombe Wanderers' right-back, is almost certain to miss the Rothmans Isthmian League game against Bromley tomorrow (Saturday). Paul injured ligaments in his knee at Ilford last week and could be out of football for as long as two weeks.

To most clubs, the loss of their full-back would be a serious blow. Wycombe are more fortunate — they have three possible replacements.

Paul Griffiths has come a long way since the start of the season and may well earn a place, or Dave Bullock, who played a half in the Viking Stavanger friendly on Monday, could return to the side.

Perhaps the most likely switch, however, is for Dave Alexander to fill the vacancy. Dave joined the club as an out-and-out midfield man but because of the form of Mick Hollifield, Terry Reardon and Howard Kennedy, he hasn't been able to gain a regular place. Last week at Ilford he came on for Birdseye in the first half and despite never playing at full-back before, fitted into the role extremely successfully.

Their opponents tomorrow, Bromley, appear to present no threat at all to Wycombe's recent run and two-year unbeaten home record. Wanderers will take some beating from now on and Bromley, with only five wins from 31 matches, do not seem to be the team to do it. The Kent

club have been inundated with problems this season.

Danny Murphy, last term's acting manager, took over as boss at the start of the season, but left with several players in September. Tim Breen, formerly with Banstead in the Spartan League, replaced him but stayed only five months. Now Len Wager, an ex-Bromley player with their successful 1949 side, is the manager. Len won an Amateur Cup winners medal with Bromley in 1949.

Only three players have remained from the start of the season while a staggering number of 50 have played for the first team at one time or another. With Enfield and Dagenham both winning on Tuesday evening, Wycombe are unlikely to allow Bromley to halt their bid to retain the championship.

Poor results this season have meant home crowds of only 250-300 per match and although they might jump above Walton

before the end of the term, they seem destined for the drop to Division Two. Victories this season have come against Kingstonian (away) 1-0, Leytonstone (home) 2-0, Kingstonian (home) 3-2, Clapton (away) 2-1 and Hitchin (home) 3-1. Heaviest defeats have been against Walthamstow 0-6, Leytonstone 0-5, and Slough 1-5.

## ROTHMANS ISTHMIAN LEAGUE

|                | P         | W         | D        | L         | F         | A         | Pts       |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Enfield        | 29        | 23        | 3        | 3         | 59        | 16        | 72        |
| <b>Wycombe</b> | <b>29</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>3</b>  | <b>56</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>66</b> |
| Dagenham       | 28        | 19        | 3        | 4         | 63        | 24        | 60        |
| Dulwich        | 30        | 18        | 5        | 7         | 53        | 26        | 59        |
| L'head         | 29        | 17        | 5        | 7         | 80        | 32        | 58        |
| Ilford         | 28        | 14        | 6        | 8         | 59        | 38        | 48        |
| Tooting        | 27        | 14        | 5        | 8         | 34        | 32        | 47        |
| Sutton         | 31        | 14        | 4        | 13        | 52        | 45        | 46        |
| Slough         | 29        | 13        | 5        | 11        | 52        | 37        | 44        |
| Wal'stow       | 31        | 11        | 7        | 13        | 46        | 41        | 40        |
| Oxford         | 29        | 12        | 4        | 13        | 40        | 39        | 40        |
| Hitchin        | 27        | 12        | 2        | 13        | 38        | 45        | 38        |
| Hendon         | 30        | 11        | 5        | 14        | 42        | 53        | 38        |
| Kings          | 32        | 12        | 2        | 18        | 38        | 53        | 38        |
| Barking        | 30        | 10        | 6        | 14        | 48        | 53        | 36        |
| Bishops        | 29        | 11        | 3        | 15        | 37        | 46        | 36        |
| L'stone        | 30        | 9         | 6        | 15        | 31        | 42        | 33        |
| Clapton        | 32        | 10        | 3        | 19        | 40        | 65        | 33        |
| Hayes          | 31        | 6         | 10       | 15        | 40        | 54        | 28        |
| Woking         | 30        | 7         | 6        | 19        | 32        | 55        | 27        |
| Walton         | 28        | 6         | 3        | 19        | 27        | 72        | 21        |
| <b>Bromley</b> | <b>31</b> | <b>5</b>  | <b>1</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>75</b> | <b>16</b> |

## Pitch unfit

**WYCOMBE** Wanderers' proposed Rothmans Isthmian League Division One game against Bromley on Saturday had to be postponed as Loakes Park was unfit for play. Although it was thought the pitch might have been playable after the club cancelled their friendly against Trelleborg on Thursday, the rain earlier in the week took its toll.

Local Isthmian League referee Bill Cleere inspected the pitch at 9.30 on Saturday morning and felt it was unfit for play. The match has now been rearranged for Tuesday, April 29.